

Office of Community Development
State of Louisiana
Division of Administration

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



JAY DARDENNE
COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Louisiana Units of General Local Government
FROM: *Traci* Traci Watts, Director
Office of Community Development - Local Government Assistance (OCD-LGA)
SUBJECT: Notice of Funding Availability
Louisiana Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus (LCDBG-CV)
HVAC Improvements Program
DATE: January 7, 2021

Due to the pandemic, local government entities are having to take actions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. In the CARES Act, HUD was allocated funding to prevent, prepare, and respond to the virus. From that funding, the State of Louisiana has been appropriated \$44,336,196. Of that amount, OCD has allocated \$31,000,000 for upgrades to HVAC and ventilation systems in publicly-owned community facilities. \$15,500,000 will be available for large applicants (local governments with populations of 10,000 or more) and \$15,500,000 will be available for small applicants (local governments with populations of 9,999 or less).

According to the CDC, upgrades/modifications to HVAC systems can improve air quality and minimize the spread of airborne infectious diseases. In an effort to assist local governments with funding for the response to the pandemic, OCD is accepting applications from units of general local government for projects to upgrade/modify HVAC and ventilation systems in an effort to reduce the spread of the virus. Applications will be accepted on a first come, first served basis until July 30, 2021 or until all funds have been obligated through an online portal. The online portal will be open to applicants beginning February 1, 2021. Applicants must be assigned a user id by OCD-LGA.

In order to be eligible for funding, proposed projects must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Proposed construction of all improvements must be projected to be complete within two (2) years of award. Awarded projects that fail to meet benchmarks identified in application can be terminated due to lack of performance and funds deobligated.

2. Community facility to be modified must meet at least one of the following to be eligible:
 - a. Located in a municipality that is at least 51% low/mod persons based on HUD Summary Data.
 - b. Serve persons that qualify as one of the following groups: Abused children, battered spouses, elderly persons, severely disabled adults, homeless persons, illiterate adults, persons living with AIDS or migrant farm workers.
 - c. Require documentation on family size and income in order to ensure that at least 51% of the beneficiaries are of low to moderate income.
 - d. Be of such a nature and in such a location that it can be concluded that clients are primarily low to moderate income.
3. Involve HVAC improvements/modifications to take actions to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Join us for our virtual Application Workshop, which will be held on January 26, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. for further program requirements. This will be a Zoom webinar. Registration is required. The link to register in advance of the workshop is https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_f_1JAqRVQDax-dLo0cC88g. The online portal to be used for application submittal will be demonstrated during this workshop.

If you need assistance or have any questions, please contact Fenishia Favorite of this office at (225) 342-7412.